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explanatory terms, that give indication of the origin of land forms, in favor of neutral terms that give no such indication; yet frequent use is made of such terms as volcano, landslide, moraine, and various others which have the origin of the forms that they designate embedded in them. And a similar negating quality is seen in the condemnation of block diagrams because, as vegetation is ordinarily not indicated upon them, they might be taken to represent desert landscapes; yet no unfavorable comment is made on the use of mere profiles or structural sections, such as are found in Richthofen's "Führer" or in Penck's "Morphologie," although such figures are much less helpful to the uninformed reader than even rudely drawn block diagrams, in which structure, profile, and surface are all indicated. Sapper solves the diagram question for his own book handily enough by having no diagrams at all, thus leaving his readers to make out his meaning from the text alone as best they can.

As already noted, the second half of Sapper's book, which describes eight climatic types of landscape, is easier and better reading than the first half, because the author here presents for the most part general descriptions, in which he succeeds, and gives but secondary attention to systematic explanations, for which he is apparently less qualified. The eight types are: humid tropical, open tropical, subtropical desert, moist temperate, dry temperate, high mountains of middle or low latitudes, subpolar and polar, and sea and coastal landscapes. The examples presented are well chosen, but the implication that certain classes of structure are associated with certain types of climate may mislead the reader. Here, as in the first part of the book, it is curious to note that, with very few exceptions, no authors or observers other than Germans are cited. Whether this is because the university library at Strassburg was poorly stocked with geographical books, or whether it is a consequence of nationalistic introspection during the Great War cannot be told.

W. M. Davis

The Physiological Effect of the Air on the Human Body

C. W. B. Normand. **The Effect of High Temperature, Humidity, and Wind on the Human Body.** Diagrs. *Quart. Journ. Royal Meteorol. Soc.*, No. 193, Vol. 46, 1920, pp. 1–14 (discussion, pp. 12–14). London.

The deadliness of the simoon has long been a source of speculation, but now the question appears conclusively solved. It is neither the high temperature alone that kills nor the strong dust-filled wind that suffocates, but the two in combination, which brings more heat to the human body than it can lose even though exerting its maximum powers of providing for evaporation. The author presents a detailed discussion of the katathermometer with a wetted surface and of the ordinary wet-bulb thermometers as indicators of possible limits of human life under different conditions of temperature, humidity, and wind velocity. The wet-bulb thermometer constantly supplied with moisture is taken as the better index of human responses. With a certain maximum rate of provision of moisture for evaporation there comes a limiting temperature above which, no matter how dry the air is, the temperature of the wet bulb can no longer be maintained at blood heat by evaporative cooling. The stronger the wind, the lower this limiting temperature is. As there is a limit to the amount of water the human body can supply for evaporation in a given time, the stronger the wind, the lower must be the air temperature if weather conditions are not to prove fatal.

On a calm day 120° F. may be easily endurable under the conditions of extremely low humidity characteristic of a desert in daytime; but if a simoon comes on, even though the wind may actually reduce the temperature by mixing the heated surface air with cooler air above, the air becomes fatal. However, if the face, hands, and feet are buried in the clothing, and the simoon does not last over an hour or two, the reduced wind velocity at the skin and the slow rise of temperature due to body heat and conduction may prevent fatal body temperatures being reached.

Among a group of men some will get heat strokes much sooner than others. This is due to physiological differences and also to local effects of clothing. Heat strokes may come from unbearable heat and humidities over portions of the body poorly ventilated on account of clothing, or through exhaustion of the sweat glands, or derangement of the bodily heat regulatory apparatus.

Charles F. Brooks